

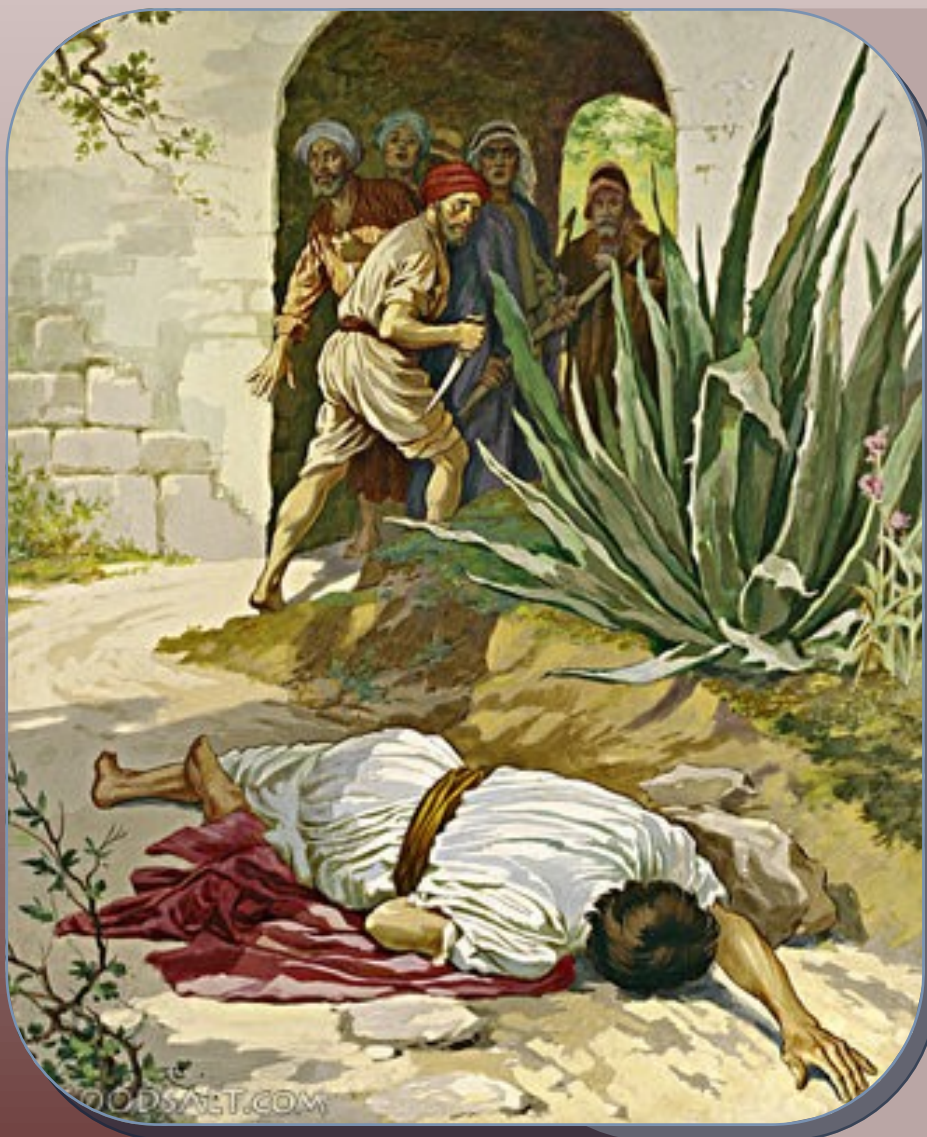
If Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain.. 1 Corint. 15:14



ST. NICHOLAS

Serbian Orthodox Church

971 St. Clair Road, Johnstown, PA 15905 ■ 814-255-1853; Parish Priest :Rev. Dragan Zaric



13th Sunday after Pentecost

But last of all he sent unto them his son, saying, They will reverence my son. But when the husbandmen saw the son, they said among themselves, This is the heir; come, let us kill him, and let us seize on his inheritance.

St. Matt. (21, 33-42)

Weekly Bulletin - Sunday September 3, 2017

**Sunday, August 21/Sept. 3 2017. 13th Sunday after Pentecost;
Holy Apostle Thaddeus; Holy Martyr Bassa; Hieromartyr Raphael of Sisatovac**

- Today after Divine Liturgy Memorial service (*Parastos*) for servant of God +Pete Martynovich (13 years). Wife Irene is donating \$50.00 to building fund and Ed and Kathy Urban are donating \$25:00 to the building fund

• **Liturgical Readings:** Gospel St. Matt. (21, 33-42)

Epistle: 1 Cor. (16, 13-24).

- **Donations Received Sunday August 27, 2017**

Offering \$1778.00 Candles \$43.00 Donations \$75.00 Sunday School \$90.00

Donations to the Sunday School from Gary, Rose And Kristina Marinkovich \$20 in memory of John Gjurich, \$20 in memory of Sylvester Saula, \$50 in memory of Lillian Fleck

Donations to the Building Fund in memory of Lillian Fleck \$25 from Evelyn Walat, \$100 from Danica Wess, \$50 from Tom & Ann Luy

- Church Liturgy will begin at 10:00am starting September 10th
- Sunday School will start September 17th Pancakes and sausage will be served after Liturgy. Donation and children are free.
- **Large Candle** donations In Memory of Victoria Bartis, Dudukovich & Knezevich Families, Stella & Steve Baich, Nikola, Milka & Nick Jr Todorich

The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost (Mt.21:33-42).

Hear another parable: There was a certain householder, which planted a vineyard, and hedged it round about, and digged a winepress in it, and built a tower, and let it out to husbandmen, and went into a far country: And when the time of the fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the husbandmen, that they might receive the fruits of it. And the husbandmen took his servants, and beat one, and killed another, and stoned another. Again, he sent other servants more than the first: and they did unto them likewise. But last of all he sent unto them his son, saying, They will reverence my son. But when the husbandmen saw the son, they said among themselves, This is the heir; come, let us kill him, and let us seize on his inheritance. And they caught him, and cast him out of the vineyard, and slew him. When the lord therefore of the vineyard cometh, what will he do unto those husbandmen? They say unto him, He will miserably destroy those wicked men, and will let out his vineyard unto other husbandmen, which shall render him the fruits in their seasons. Jesus saith unto them, Did ye never read in the scriptures, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner: this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes? (KJV)

Orthodox bishops and charities respond to Houston flooding

Houston, Texas, August 30, 2017



His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America writes:

In the wake of Hurricane Harvey that hit Texas and continues to ravage through neighbouring states causing unprecedented destruction, trauma and loss of life, we share in the pain of our brothers and sisters and express our solidarity, care and concern. As Orthodox Christians we are called to prayer and fervently pray that God gives strength to those so adversely affected by this natural disaster and delivers them safe through this continuing calamity. We are also praying for the eternal rest of those who lost their lives and for comfort and strength to be granted by the merciful God to their families and friends. Our prayers however, should be accompanied by tangible assistance to those who are now in dire need. We ask all faithful Orthodox Christians to contribute their donations directly to IOCC, the International Orthodox Christian Charities, which is an agency under the auspices of the

Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States of America.

Donations can also be made to the International Orthodox Christian Charities' Hurricane Harvey Response Fund. Additionally, IOCC has deployed the Frontliners—a volunteer group of clergy and laity who are highly trained in emotional and spiritual care counseling and rapid needs—to Southern Texas.

Today the Holy Orthodox Church commemorates

THE HOLY APOSTLE THADDAEUS -Thaddaeus was one of the Seventy Apostles but not the Thaddaeus who was one of the Twelve Apostles. St. Thaddaeus first saw and heard John the Baptist and received baptism from him and after that he saw the Lord Jesus and followed Him. The Lord numbered him among the seventy lesser apostles whom He sent two by two before His face, "After these things, the Lord appointed other seventy also and sent them two and two before His face into every city and place where He Himself would come" (St. Luke 10:1). After His glorious Resurrection and Ascension, the Lord sent Thaddaeus to Edessa, Thaddaeus' birthplace, according to the promise He gave to Prince Abgar at the time when He sent the towel with His face on it. By kissing the towel, Abgar was healed of leprosy but not completely. A little leprosy still remained on his face. When St. Thaddaeus appeared to Abgar, he received him with great joy. The apostle of Christ instructed him in the true faith and after that baptized him. When the baptized Abgar came out of the water, the remaining leprosy fell from him and he was completely healed. Glorifying God, Prince Abgar also wanted that his people should know the true God and to glorify Him. The prince assembled all the citizens of Edessa before the holy Apostle Thaddaeus to hear teaching about Christ. Hearing the words of the apostle and seeing their prince miraculously healed, the people rejected the idols, unclean living, embraced the Faith of Christ and were baptized. Thus, the city of Edessa was illumined by the Faith of Christ. Prince Abgar brought much gold and offered it to the apostle but Thaddaeus said to him: "Since we left our own gold, how can we receive the gold of others?" St. Thaddaeus preached the Gospel throughout Syria and Phoenicia. He reposed in the Lord in the Phoenician city of Beirut.

2. THE HOLY FEMALE MARTYR BASSA AND HER CHILDREN: THEOGNIUS, AGAPIUS AND PISTUS -Bassa was the wife of an idolatrous pagan priest but also was secretly a Christian. She educated her sons in the spirit of Christianity. Her husband hated her because of her faith and handed her, along with her, sons, over to the judge for torturing. After harsh tortures, her sons were beheaded (thought to be Edessa in Macedonia). Bassa was completely overjoyed when she saw how her sons honorably ended their martyr's heroic deed for Christ and she herself, with even greater eagerness, went from torture to torture. When they tossed Bassa into the sea, angels appeared to her and brought her to an island in the Sea of Marmara where she was beheaded at the time of Maximian. Thus, was St. Bassa, in a two-fold manner, was made worthy of the Kingdom of Christ, as a martyr and as a mother of martyrs.

3. VENERABLE ABRAHAM OF SMOLENSK-Abraham was born in the town of Smolensk in answer to his parent's prayers. He entered the monastic life at an early age and gave himself to austere asceticism, emulating the ancient fathers of the desert. Later, he established the monastery of the Holy Cross near Smolensk. He endured many temptations both from demons and men with great patience and thanksgiving to God. During the time of a great drought, Abraham brought forth rain by his prayers. Living fifty years in the monastic order, Abraham peacefully died in the Lord about 1220 A.D.

4. THE HOLY FOREFATHERS ABRAHAM, ISAAC AND JACOB -Abraham, Isaac and Jacob are also commemorated on the Sunday of the Forefathers before Christmas as the righteous and chosen ones of God. (*Prologue*)